Irrigation Works investigated during special Irrigation Drive in Puttur Taluk, South Kanara.

*Q.—598. Sri K. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA (Puttur).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of Irrigation Works investigated during special Irrigation Drive in Puttur Taluk of South Kanara ;

(*b*) out of these the number of them that have been executed so far ;

(*c*) when the remaining works will be taken up for execution ?

A.—Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA (Minister for Public Works and Electricity).—

(*a*) 45.

(*b*) 14 are under execution.

(*c*) Works will be taken up shortly.

Production of Gold in the Kolar Gold Fields.

*Q.—612. Sri F. W. CORBETT (Nominated).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they are aware of the statement made by the Union Minister for Mines and Oil in the Lok Sabha on 5th March that the production of gold in the country has gone down in the last four years, and that the reduction is due to the exhaustion of the rich lodes in the Kolar Gold Fields ;

(*b*) whether this reduction is not also due to reduced efficiency in working the mines after nationalisation ;

(*c*) whether the Government will make available a statement for the two years immediately preceding nationalisation and the two years immediately following nationalisation in respect of the following items :—

(i) the tonnage of rock excavated ;

(ii) the tonnage of ore treated for the extraction of gold ;

(iii) the amount of gold recovered in ounces and the yield per ton of ore treated ;

(*d*) the present position in the Mines as regards availability of gold bearing ore ?

A.—Sri B. D. JATTI (Chief Minister).—

(*a*) The State Government do not wish to be drawn into a controversy over the statement of the Union Minister. So far as the Kolar Gold Mining Undertakings are concerned there has been a reduction in the gold produced but it cannot be said that the reduction is due to the exhaustion of the rich lodes in Kolar Gold Field. The rich lodes are encountered side by side with low grade ore, the latter however dominates.

(*b*) No.

(*c*)—

Year	Tonnage of ore hoisted	Tonnage of ore treated for extraction of gold	Quality of gold recovered ounces	Yield per ton of ore treated dwt per ton
1955-56 ...	627,486	598,451	193,443	6.42
1956-57 ...	691,166	649,520	187,001	5.75
1957-58 ...	715,277	675,868	163,123	4.83
1958-59 ...	684,564	636,181	150,781	4.72